

STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES KEVIN W. CONCANNON, DIRECTOR

Informational letter No. 666

February 4, 2008

To: Iowa Medicaid MEP Case Manager, Remedial Services, Habilitation Services

and Waiver Providers

From: The Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise

RE: Changes in the HCBS Specialist Regional Coverage

The contract between the Department of Human Services and Iowa State University to provide technical assistance and quality assurance activities for the Home and Community Based Services program was amended July 1, 2007 to include the new HCBS Habilitation and Remedial Services programs. At that time, additional staff was added to the ISU contract to provide the technical assistance and quality assurance for these two programs.

As the capacity of the HCBS contract to meet all requirements of HCBS services and these new programs was evaluated, it became evident that a new approach would be required to meet the additional responsibilities. As a result of this evaluation, a restructuring of the existing HCBS regional coverage will take place March 1, 2008. The state will be divided into 14 different regions with one Community Based Services Specialist assigned to each region. The Specialist will be the resource within the region for technical assistance and quality assurance activities for the HCBS waivers, Habilitation, and Remedial Services. This system will allow providers, case managers, and the field to have one point of contact. A listing of the Community Based Services Specialists by county and a statewide regional map can be found at the HCBS website:

http://www.ime.state.ia.us/HCBS/help_ownhome.html

If you have questions regarding the changes in the regional coverage of the HCBS, Habilitation and Remedial Services coverage, please call your regional Community Based Service Specialist at the above website or Brian Wines, HCBS supervisor at 515-725-1132.